

B1
a capacitor having a first terminal directly connected to the first supply terminal and a second terminal directly connected to the gate of the transistor of the second type.

B2
7. (Twice Amended) A circuit comprising:
a first transistor having a first terminal coupled to a first supply voltage and a second terminal directly connected to a second supply voltage;
a second transistor having a first terminal directly connected to a third terminal of said first transistor and a second terminal directly connected to said second supply voltage;
and
a capacitor directly connected between a third terminal of said second transistor and said first supply voltage.

B3
11. (Once Amended) The circuit of claim 8, wherein [an anode] a cathode of said diode is coupled to said third terminal of said second transistor, and [a cathode] an anode of said diode is coupled to said second voltage supply.

B4
15. (Twice Amended) A device for protecting a circuit against voltage surges comprising:
a first transistor having a first terminal [coupled] directly connected to a first power supply and a second terminal [coupled] directly connected to a second power supply;
a second transistor having a first terminal [coupled] directly connected to said first power supply and a second terminal connected [coupled] to said second power supply and directly connected to a third terminal of said first transistor; and
a third transistor having a first terminal [coupled] directly connected to said first power supply a second terminal coupled to said second power supply and directly connected to a third terminal of said second transistor, and a third terminal connected to said first power supply through a capacitor;
wherein said third terminals of said first, second and third transistors are [coupled] connected to said second power supply through first, second and third resistors, respectively.

14 18. (Twice Amended) A device for protecting a circuit from voltage surges comprising:

a first means for switching coupled to a first power supply and directly connected to a second power supply;

a second means for switching directly connected between said first power supply and said second power supply;

a capacitor directly connected between said first means for switching and said first power supply;

a first resistor [coupled] directly connected between said first means for switching and said second power supply; and

a second resistor [coupled] directly connected between said second means for switching and said first power supply;

wherein, upon the occurrence of a voltage surge on said first power supply, said first means for switching closes, thereby supplying a voltage to said second means for switching, which also closes, thereby causing a short-circuit between said first and second power supplies.

23. (Twice Amended) A device for protecting a circuit against voltage surges comprising:

a first means for switching having a first terminal [coupled] directly connected to a first power supply and a second terminal directly connected to a second power supply;

a second means for switching having a first terminal directly connected to said first power supply and a second terminal coupled to said second power supply and directly connected to a third terminal of said first means for switching; and

a third means for switching having a first terminal directly connected to said first power supply, a second terminal coupled to said second power supply and directly connected to a third terminal of said second means for switching and a third terminal connected to said first power supply through a capacitor;

wherein said third terminals of said first, second and third means for switching are connected to said second power supply through first, second and third resistors, respectively.